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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) A method for providing antimicrobial activity on skin, the method comprising the steps of:

administering to skin a composition comprising a biguanide polymer, an antimicrobial metallic material which is substantially water-insoluble or can be rendered substantially water-insoluble by chemical reaction with an alkali halide, and a carrier selected from the group consisting of a cream, a lotion, a deodorant, a spray, a gel, a wax, an oil, an ointment, a soap, and an alcohol, and

forming a moisture-resistant film on the skin, thereby imparting a persistent antimicrobial activity on the skin.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the biguanide polymer comprises poly(hexamethylenebiguanide), poly(hexamethylenebiguanide) hydrochloride, poly(hexamethylenebiguanide) gluconate, poly(hexamethylenebiguanide) stearate, or a derivative thereof.

61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58, wherein the metallic material is silver or a silver compound.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the metallic material is silver nitrate.